Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the sentence beginning on page 31, line 14 and ending on line 17 as follows:

This article refers to a generic technology as general basis for production of specific binding molecules, and show that aptamers comprising the nucleotide sequence GGTTGGTGTGGTTGG (SEQ ID NO: 6) or GGTTGG are specifically bound to human thrombin.

Please amend the sentence beginning on page 34, line 16 and ending on line 19 as follows:

Isolate pure Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1) from the stock solution by reverse phase chromatography in a C5 column (sold from many suppliers, including Waters, U.S.), using 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid as eluant and employ a gradient of 0% to 60% acetonitrile in 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 34, line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

Pure Cy5-labelled Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1) of the stock solution can also be isolated by thin layer chromatography: Apply aliquots of stock solution on silica gel plates and elute with n-butanol:acetic acid:water mixtures. Depending on the quality of the silica gel, the relative content of n-butanol:acetic acid:water can be adjusted to obtain ideal separation. After elution by conventional technique, dry the silica gel plate and inspect visually and by UV lamp (and optionally using nihydrin spray in parallell experiments) to identify the Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1) spot, separated from non-labelled peptide and free Cy-5 dye molecules. Isolate the silicagel comprising Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1) by scissors or spatulum. Suspend the isolated silica gel in 10mM TRIS-buffer pH = 8.0, whereby the Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1) is eluted into solution. The silica gel settles in the bottom of the tube. Decant off the TRIS-buffered solution with the purified Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1).

Please amend the sentence beginning on page 35, line 4 and ending on line 7 as follows:

Perform the method of the present invention according to example 1, except use Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Gly-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 2) instead of Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1), to obtain Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Gly-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 2).

Please amend the sentence beginning on page 35, line 14 and ending on line 16 as follows:

Add 1.0*10E-11 mol per ml of Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1) according to example 1 above, and optionally add a suitable bacterostatic agentlike 0.01% sodium azide for prolonged storage.

Please amend the sentence beginning on page 35, line 32 and ending on line 34 as follows:

The C-reactive protein of the test sample aliquot starts to react with the Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1) of the assay reagent.

Please amend the sentence beginning on page 36, line 18 and ending on line 19 as follows:

Furthermore, each C-reactive protein molecule can react with five molecules of Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1).

Please amend the sentence beginning on page 36, line 19 and ending on line 23 as follows:

The concentrations of interest for C-reactive protein therefore varies a lot, and the concentration of Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1) therefore may have to be adjusted compared to the blood volume to be combined with the assay reagent.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 34, line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

Perform the method of the present invention according to example 3, except use Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Gly-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 2) in the place of Cy5-

labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Arg-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 1). This example of the method is more adequate for very high concentrations of C-reactive protein than example 3 because of Cy5-labelled Tyr-Trp-Ala-Asn-Phe-Ala-Arg-Asn-Gly-Asn (SEQ ID NO: 2) lower affinity for C-reactive protein. Correspondingly, this example of the method is less appropriate to use for low concentrations of C-reactive protein.

Please amend the sentence beginning on page 43, line 6 and ending on line 8 as follows:

Make anti- Asp-Ala-His-Lys-Ser-Glu-Val-Ala (SEQ ID NO: 3) antibodies using conventional techniques well known to the skilled man of the art, e.g. by the use of antigen formed by coupling of the peptide to keyhole limpet cyanin.